

Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 - Expedited Examining Procedure

Page 2 of 9

Serial No.: 09/822,651

Confirmation No.: 9447

Filed: 30 March 2001

For: WEB HAVING DISCRETE STEM REGIONS

with a fibrous surface of the nonwoven web; and

a plurality of stems extending from the at least one discrete polymeric region.

57. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the nonwoven web comprises a composite comprising a film layer.

58. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the nonwoven web comprises an elastic web.

59. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the at least one discrete polymeric region is surrounded by exposed portions of the nonwoven web.

60. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the at least one discrete polymeric region comprises a stripe extending over the first major side of the nonwoven web.

61. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the at least one discrete polymeric region comprises a plurality of discrete polymeric regions on the first major side of the nonwoven web.

62. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 61 wherein the plurality of discrete polymeric patches are separated from one another by an average of approximately 0.05 to 30 centimeters.

63. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the at least one discrete polymeric region covers between 1 and 99 percent of the first major side of the nonwoven web.

64. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56 wherein the at least one discrete

Amendment and Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 - Expedited Examining Procedure

Page 3 of 9

Serial No.: 09/822,651

Confirmation No.: 9447

Filed: 30 March 2001

For: WEB HAVING DISCRETE STEM REGIONS

polymer region covers between 20 and 80 percent of the first major side of the nonwoven web.

65. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the at least one discrete polymer region covers between 5 and 25 percent of the first major side of the nonwoven web.

66. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a mushroom head.

67. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein each stem of the plurality of stems comprises a hook.

68. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 56, wherein the mechanical fastener comprises a diaper fastener.

69. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 57, wherein the nonwoven web comprises elastic material.

70. (NEW) A mechanical fastener according to claim 60, wherein the stripe extends in a transverse direction across the nonwoven web.